

**U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:18-cv-00232-EGS**

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
INTERIOR

Assigned to: Judge Emmet G. Sullivan
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 01/31/2018

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS

represented by **Kelly E. Nokes**
WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
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TERMINATED: 05/30/2018

V.

Defendant

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR**

represented by **Scott Leeson Sroka**
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
555 Fourth Street, NW
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| Date Filed | # | Docket Text |
|------------|----------|--|
| 01/31/2018 | <u>1</u> | COMPLAINT <i>for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief</i> against DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR <i>Office of the Secretary</i> (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5312414) filed by WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons Summons to Attorney General, # <u>3</u> Summons Summons to U.S. Attorney, # <u>4</u> Summons Summons to Dept. of Interior)(Kagan, Neil) (Attachment 1 replaced on 2/1/2018) (zsth). (Entered: 01/31/2018) |
| 01/31/2018 | <u>2</u> | Corporate Disclosure Statement by WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. (Kagan, Neil) (Entered: 01/31/2018) |
| 01/31/2018 | | Case Assigned to Judge Emmet G. Sullivan. (zsth) (Entered: 02/01/2018) |
| 02/01/2018 | <u>3</u> | SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zsth) (Entered: 02/01/2018) |

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| 02/02/2018 | <u>4</u> | STANDING ORDER: The parties are directed to read the attached Standing Order Governing Civil Cases Before Judge Emmet G. Sullivan in its entirety upon receipt. The parties are hereby ORDERED to comply with the directives in the attached Standing Order. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 02/02/18. (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1) (mac) (Entered: 02/02/2018) |
| 02/08/2018 | <u>5</u> | CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by WILDEARTH GUARDIANS re <u>4</u> Order, . (Kagan, Neil) (Entered: 02/08/2018) |
| 02/20/2018 | <u>6</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Scott Leeson Sroka on behalf of All Defendants (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 02/20/2018) |
| 02/21/2018 | <u>7</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Kelly E. Nokes on behalf of WILDEARTH GUARDIANS (Nokes, Kelly) (Main Document 7 replaced on 2/22/2018) (znmw). (Entered: 02/21/2018) |
| 03/05/2018 | <u>8</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 02/20/2018. (Kagan, Neil) (Entered: 03/05/2018) |
| 03/05/2018 | <u>9</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 2/22/2018. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 3/24/2018. (Kagan, Neil) (Entered: 03/05/2018) |
| 03/05/2018 | <u>10</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR served on 2/20/2018 (Kagan, Neil) (Entered: 03/05/2018) |
| 03/23/2018 | <u>11</u> | Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 03/23/2018) |
| 03/23/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER granting <u>11</u> government's consent motion for extension of time to file answer. Therefore, the defendant shall answer, or otherwise respond, to the plaintiff's complaint by April 24, 2018. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 3/23/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 03/23/2018) |
| 03/26/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendant Answer Or Otherwise Response To The Plaintiff's Complaint due by 4/24/2018. (mac) (Entered: 03/26/2018) |
| 04/24/2018 | <u>12</u> | ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.(Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 04/24/2018) |
| 05/30/2018 | <u>13</u> | NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. Attorney Neil S. Kagan terminated. (Nokes, Kelly) (Entered: 05/30/2018) |
| 06/12/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. 552. The parties are directed to meet and confer and propose a joint scheduling order for further proceedings in this case by no later than July 12, 2018. The parties' joint proposed scheduling order shall address the following: (1) The status of plaintiff's FOIA request; (2) The anticipated number of documents responsive to plaintiff's FOIA request; (3) The anticipated date(s) for release of documents responsive to plaintiff's FOIA request; (4) Whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case; (5) Whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case; (6) Whether this case would benefit from referral to a magistrate judge or the District Court Mediation Program for purposes of settlement; and (7) A proposed briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if applicable. If the parties are unable to agree on a joint recommendation, the joint proposed scheduling order shall include each party's individual recommendations. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 6/12/2018. (lcegs3). (Entered: 06/12/2018) |
| 06/13/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Scheduling Order due by 7/12/2018. (mac) (Entered: 06/13/2018) |
| 07/12/2018 | <u>14</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 07/12/2018) |

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| 07/16/2018 | | MINUTE ORER in view of <u>14</u> joint status report, in which the parties state that the defendant is currently conducting document searches, the parties are directed to file another joint status report by August 7, 2018 following the government's first document release on July 31, 2018. The joint status report shall contain recommendations for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 7/16/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 07/16/2018) |
| 07/16/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/7/2018. (mac) (Entered: 07/16/2018) |
| 08/07/2018 | <u>15</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. (Nokes, Kelly) (Entered: 08/07/2018) |
| 08/08/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER in view of <u>15</u> joint status report, the parties shall file another joint status report by no later than September 7, 2018. The status report contain recommendations for further proceedings following the defendant's September 5, 2018 update. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 8/8/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 08/08/2018) |
| 08/08/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 9/7/2018. (zcdw) (Entered: 08/08/2018) |
| 09/07/2018 | <u>16</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 09/07/2018) |
| 09/10/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER in view of <u>16</u> joint status report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report by no later than November 7, 2018, setting forth recommendations for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 9/10/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 09/10/2018) |
| 09/10/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/7/2018. (mac) (Entered: 09/10/2018) |
| 09/18/2018 | <u>17</u> | NOTICE of Change of Address by Kelly E. Nokes (Nokes, Kelly) (Entered: 09/18/2018) |
| 11/07/2018 | <u>18</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 11/07/2018) |
| 11/08/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER in view of <u>18</u> joint status report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report by no later than December 14, 2018 setting forth recommendations for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 11/8/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 11/08/2018) |
| 11/08/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/14/2018. (mac) (Entered: 11/08/2018) |
| 12/14/2018 | <u>19</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 12/14/2018) |
| 12/17/2018 | | MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>19</u> joint status report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report by no later than March 14, 2019, setting forth recommendations for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 12/17/2018. (lcegs3) (Entered: 12/17/2018) |
| 12/17/2018 | | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/14/2019. (mac) (Entered: 12/17/2018) |